

FEB 19 2004

OFFICIAL

PATENT

DK-US045032

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Norio MAEDA et al.

Patent Art Unit: 3749

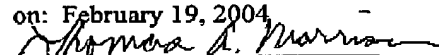
Serial No. 09/889,484

Examiner: Pamela Anne Wilson

Filed: December 20, 2001

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on: February 19, 2004

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DRYING
SUBSTRATE


Signature of: Thomas A. Morrison

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the August 19, 2003 Office Action, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 9 of this paper. Claims 1-17 are pending, with claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 15 being the only independent claims.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.